

## Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding development of Son Beel in Karimganj district, Assam as a tourist spot - Laid.

**SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS (KARIMGANJ):** In my constituency and district Karimganj in Assam, there is an idyllic place with natural beauty namely Son Beel, the largest natural fishery in Asia, covering an area of 85 Sq.Km. in the high flood and reduces to 35 Sq.KM in normal summer season. It is surrounded by 35 villages with population of 80,000. The residents of the villages around are depend on the wet land for fishing. The specialty of Son Beel is that during winter season it becomes fully farm land where rice cultivation is done and from March onwards it become a natural lake. Water and soil of Son Beel suitable for natural fish breeding and in winter season it become a migratory birds sanctuary. The tragic part is that, in absence of any prohibitory measures, the migratory birds are mercilessly killed by people for food. By planning & developing Son Beel it can be used for various purposes. Firstly, by protecting and developing an area as non- fishing zone natural breeding of local fishes can be increased, birds sanctuary can be developed, and logging water can be used for irrigation purpose in winter season Once a part of Son Beel is developed as protected natural fishery and tourist spot, naturalists, bird watchers and scientific researchers will find it a suitable place to visit. Tourist can also undertake rafting, angling and boat ride. In all, economical condition of the area will be developed in a high manner. So I urge upon the Union Government to take immediate step for developing Son Beel by sending a specialist team for survey and planning.